

Leading a Child to Christ: Heal My Heart

An explanation and invitation to receive Christ as Lord and Savior.

This invitation can be used separately or as a supplement for **Lesson 9: Healing the Deaf and Mute Man** Ages 6-11, Unit 2, Prophets & Promises*

Scriptures: Psalm 147:3, Romans 8:38-39

Song Suggestions: Meditative instrumental background music helps children focus their attention. Close invitation with a familiar song of praise and celebration. See Bible Memory Verse Songs* such as "Neither Death Nor Life" Heal Me O Lord", "You Will Seek Me",

THE ABC PRAYER OF SALVATION

Lord Jesus,
I Admit that I'm a sinner.
I Believe You are the Lord
who died to take my sins away.
Please Come into my heart
and I'll follow You forever.
In Jesus' name, I pray.
Amen!

Optional: Divide the ABC Prayer of Salvation into three slides and show separately: Admit, Believe, Come

Follow-up Suggestion: Provide Children's Guide for New Believers* to any child who prayed the A.B.C. Prayer.

Two Leaders: The script calls for two leaders and one volunteer reader. It may be adapted for one leader and any size group of children.

Supplies:

- ☐ Bible
 - ☐ 1 large heart (craft foam) cut in half
 - ☐ Sturdy medical adhesive tape, bandage, or white duct tape
 - ☐ Slide: ABC PRAYER OF SALVATION
 - ☐ Children's Guide for New Believers*
- *Available for download at www.childrensministrywarehouse.net

Leader 1

The Bible is filled with amazing stories that teach us who God is and what He has done. Some of my favorite stories are about the wonders and miracles He has performed – especially the times he has healed people.

Leader 2

(Skimming pages of the Bible looking for stories of healing) **I love the stories of Jesus healing people, especially when he healed the man who could not hear or speak. Jesus led him away from the crowd to heal Him.**

Leader 1

And the time Jesus healed the lady who had been sick for 12 years!

Leader 2

(Points to Mark 2 in the Bible.) **Don't forget this one - when Jesus healed the man on the mat when his friend lowered him through the roof. (To children) Which is your favorite story about Jesus healing someone? (Respond)**

Leader 1

Those are awesome miracles. Jesus heals blindness, deafness, and all kinds of diseases. But for me, the best miracle story of all is the one where Jesus heals our hearts.

Leader 2

I don't remember that story. (Flipping through Bible) **Where is the one about healing our hearts?**

Leader 1

It's right here. (Pointing to his or her own heart.) **It's the story of Jesus healing my heart. Some of you may also have a story about this.**

Leader 2

I had no idea that you had a heart problem? What was wrong with your heart?

Leader 1

We all have a heart problem with God. (Display foam heart completed divided in half by an empty space.)
That's because our sins separate us from God. Sin is doing wrong in God's eyes.

Leader 2

And everybody sins. The Bible explains that God's punishment for sin is death - being separated from God and His love forever... (Point to empty space separating the heart halves.) **Oh my, that is a heart problem.**

Leader 1

This separation makes an empty place in our hearts. No one but Jesus can heal it, because no one but Jesus can fill it. We can try to heal ourselves by being good or doing good deeds. God is pleased when we do these things, but our hearts will still be separated from Him until we let Jesus heal our heart.

Leader 2

Wait a minute, that reminds me of something. (Opens Bible to Psalm 147:3.) **Everyone needs to hear this promise! Who will read it for us?** (Volunteer reads Psalm 147:3. "*He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.*") **But how exactly does Jesus heal that kind of a broken heart?** (Points to foam heart halves.)

Leader 1

Jesus died on the cross for us, so that anyone who believes in Him

will be forgiven and close with God forever.

Leader 2

Oh, I get it. It's as if the cross of Jesus is the bandage that holds our hearts close to God forever. (Tape 2 strips of sturdy bandage or white duct tape in shape of cross over heart to completely connect heart halves.)

Leader 1

That's right and *that's* my story! Jesus healed my heart and I will be close to God forever – here on earth and later in heaven. And He will do that for anyone who believes in Him.

Leader 2

Asking Jesus to heal our hearts is as simple as A-B-C. (VFX: "Admit" slide) **We just pray to Jesus and *ADMIT* that we are sinners.**

Leader 1 (VFX: "Believe" slide)

Then we tell Him that we *BELIEVE* that He is the Lord who died to take our sins away. (VFX: "Come" slide) **And finally, ask Jesus to *COME* into our heart so we can follow Him and be close with God forever.**

Leader2

Some of you may have already prayed a prayer like that. So this... (Point to foam heart covered with cross tape.) **is *your* story, too.**

Leader 1

If you have never invited Jesus to come into your heart, and you would like to do that now, let's pray the A.B.C. Prayer together. (Lead children in A.B.C. Prayer.)

THE ABC PRAYER OF SALVATION

Lord Jesus,
I Admit that I'm a sinner.

**I Believe You are the Lord
who died to take my sins away.**

**Please Come into my heart
and I'll follow You forever.**

**In Jesus' name, I pray.
Amen!**

read at home with your parents.
This will help you to better
understand the decision you made
today.

Leader 2

And if you wanted to pray that
prayer but didn't, then know that
you can do that at anytime with
your teacher or with someone in
your family who loves God, or you
can pray it when you are alone.
God will hear your prayer wherever
you are!

Leader 2

When you pray a prayer like this to
Jesus, He will heal your heart and
you will no longer be separated
from God. He forgives you for all of
your sins. The Holy Spirit comes
into your heart and you will be
close to God forever.

Leader 1

Yes and once His Spirit comes into
our hearts, no one can separate us
ever again from the love of God.

Leader 2

That's part of our story too! It says
it right here. (*Reads Roman 8:38-39,*
"For I am convinced that neither death
nor life, neither angels nor demons,
neither the present nor the future, nor
any powers, neither height nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation, will be
able to separate us from the love of God
that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.")

Leader 1

If you prayed that prayer today,
then this... (Point to foam heart
covered with cross tape.) **is now your**
story. We ask you to please tell
your teacher when you get to your
classroom. He or she will give you
one of these booklets that you can

(Close with a familiar song of praise and
celebration, or a Bible Memory Verse
song such as "Neither Death Nor Life"
Heal Me O Lord", "You Will Seek Me"
available for download at
www.childrensministrywarehouse.net)

Optional: For additional related
passages, see Jeremiah 17:14, Psalm
86:5-6,10-12, Romans 10:9, 1 Peter
2:24-25